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Commercial Advertiser

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Bessie—Six Years Old To-day.

BY GEORGE A. BREWER.

Sunrise—
Morning—
Noon—
Evening—
Night—
Loving through her flowy curtains
Like a sunbeam through the spray,
Where a smiling mist infatuates—
Bonny Bessie Grey,
Six years old today.

Darling of the hearts of all,
Perfect Summer's mildest ray
To the few whose countenance
Is so low-brown, every day
Opening wider, with no fail,
Bonny Bessie Grey,
Six years old today.

From the sunlight of her hair
She is a picture of delight,
Every inch is sweet and fair,
Perfect grace from perfect sway
Of an infant music there!
Bonny Bessie Grey,
Six years old today.

Or the sunshine of her heart
Fills her eye as beaming day,
The June heavens; and just apart,
She has a smile to display
How fondly she loves me!
Bonny Bessie Grey,
Six years old today.

Smiling kindly of the Spring,
How we know the growing ray,
That still tempts her little wing
Not to spread its way;
Sweetest of the birds that sing,
Bonny Bessie Grey,
Six years old today.

(Continued.)

Mr. EDITOR.—In the Government Organ of April 28th, our old friend, the Minister, has some strictures on certain statements made by me in a late issue of the *Advertiser*.

It is scarcely necessary for me to say, that in making these statements, it was no part of my purpose or expectation that anything I could say would meet the approbation of the members of the Board of Education, or of those who sympathize with them in the crooked policy they have pursued. Nor, further was it my expectation to guard against quibbles and evasions, for which the ministerial writer is so universally notorious. Hence, in the matter of his first point, viz:

"It is not a fact that there came forth from the New Board an entirely new Corps of Local School Agents."

I remark that it was not supposed, nor is it now comprehended, that the introduction of a few of the former Corps of Local Agents into the new body, was of any very special significance pro or con.

The great fact which I wished to put squarely upon the record, was, that the new Corps of Local School Agents was a new body of men, especially selected to carry out the hostile purposes of the Board towards missionaries, the doctrines they taught, and the influences they wielded over the Hawaiian people. I stated this as a matter not kept in a corner, but proclaimed everywhere about, as I need not say.

And thus, I left to be the more needful, inasmuch as just now, the Board is apparently very much troubled in view of its past outrages upon a sound morality and upon the rights of the great majority of the people; and furthermore is aiming to conceal the past by a newly-fledged zeal for evangelical morality. Its singular resulting to its aid, of the contemptuously ejected missionary element, is sufficient illustration of this purpose.

But another thought worthy of consideration in this connection is found in the fact that the gentleman defender of the Board does not intimate in his enumeration of the eight members of former agencies, now re-appointed to the new Corps, how many of these were retained when the Board found it an absolute impossibility, after months of careful effort, to find the sort of men they desired; or, having found them in certain instances, were unable to induce them to accept the office.

There certainly was, at the time, no secrecy that the Board was, for these measures, compelled to re-appoint men whom they did not want, and who moreover, as is common notoriety, have never served the Board, in the capacity in which some of their agents have served them so well—as the bitter and persistent foes of morality and evangelical religion.

We know whereof we affirm. As, therefore, it has time and again been reiterated, so now, we once more repeat that "THESE WERE SPECIAL REASONS" why a few good men were put into the new Corps of Local Agents. And we did not, do not, nor shall we set down anything to the credit of the Board because a few good men were, contrary to its wishes and designs, found among the new sub-agents.

To the Minister's postulate number 2—"That the new appointments were not, with rare exceptions, grossly immoral men," I have two objections. To his mind they may indeed, be of little consequence, whilst to mine, they involve the entire gist of the question at issue.

It is evident that the standard of morality is his; and the Board's system of ethics is a very different standard from that to which we hold.

Whilst it would be easy to do so, it is not at all needless for my purposes to fill the columns of the *Advertiser* with facts illustrative of this statement. As a single example, however, we should not deem a school teacher living openly with two wives in his own house, and having children by both, "a person of good moral character"—nor should we retain him as a teacher of children, despite the protestations of parents, "because it would seem too Puritanical" tooust him.

Again, the gentleman who speaks for the Board gives us the list of Local School Agents, as published by that body.

Referring to what has already been said as to these appointments, allow me to add that he does not publish the names of those, in the class referred to by "Our Answer"—men who would have rendered the Corps of Local Agents more nearly homogeneous in its moral elements, could the Board have secured their services. On the contrary we had those very cases in mind, nor shall we soon forget them, however zealous the Board may hereafter show itself in building up, what once it sought by all the means in its power, to destroy. In this feeling, there are large numbers who are with us. And however readily they may consent to work with the Board of Education, in its

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